



CONTINUUM OF CARE REFORM

California's Child Welfare **Continuum of Care Reform (CCR)** *Overview*

California Department of Social Services

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Background

Legislative mandate*:

Reform Group Homes & FFAs with robust & diverse stakeholder input

Legislative report with recommendations

Builds on previous reform efforts: SB 933, RBS Reform

Continuum of Care Reform: A comprehensive framework that supports children, youth and families across placement settings (from relatives to congregate care) in achieving permanency. Includes:

Increased engagement with children, youth and families

Increased capacity for home-based family care

Limited use of congregate care

Systemic and infrastructure changes: rates, training, accreditation, accountability & performance, mental health services



Vision

- All children live with a committed, permanent and nurturing family
- Individualized and coordinated services and supports
- Focus on permanent family and preparation for successful adulthood
- When needed, congregate care is a short-term, high quality, intensive intervention that is just one part of a continuum of care available for children, youth and young adults



Guiding Principles

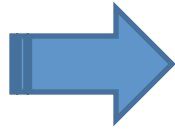


- The child, youth and family's experience is valued in:
 - Assessment
 - Service planning
 - Placement decisions
- Children shouldn't change placements to get services
- Cross system and cross-agency collaboration to improve access to services and outcomes
- Recognizing the differences in the probation system and among other groups of youth



The “Paradigm Shift”

Group Home

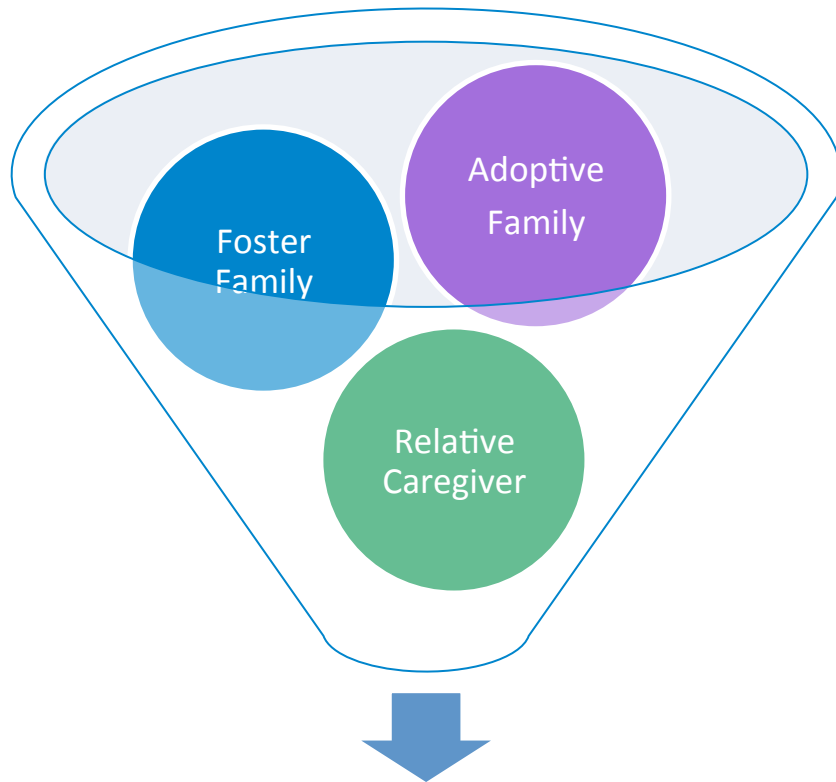


Short-Term Residential
Treatment Center
(STRTC)

Children who cannot be safely placed in a family can receive short-term, residential care with specific care plans and intensive therapeutic interventions and services to support transition to a family.



Foster Families → Resource Families



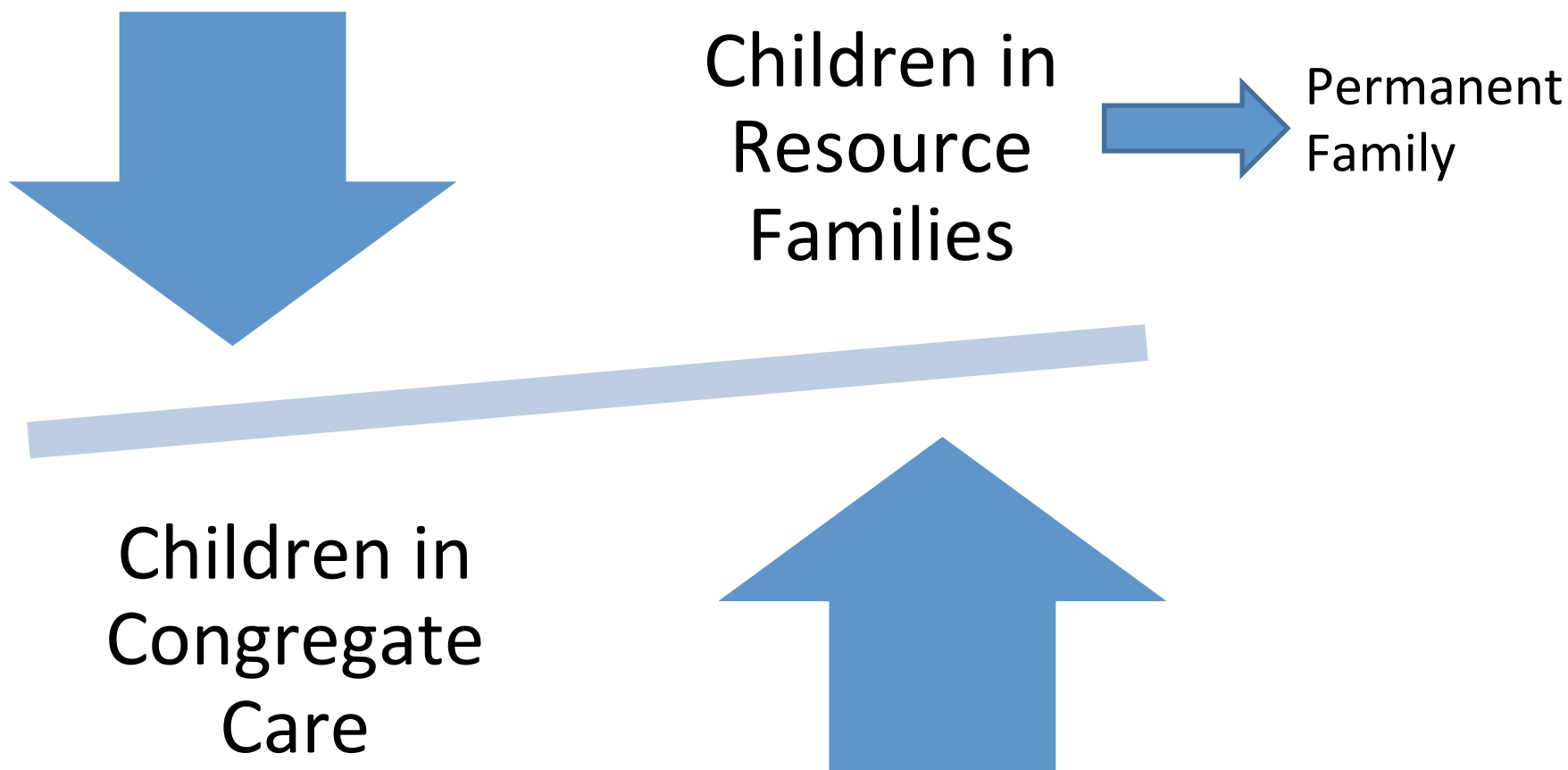
Resource Family

Resource Family Approval:

- Related and non-related families
- Training for all families
- Resource Families still choose the role they play in the system: temporary or permanent
- Prepared for permanency-no additional approvals necessary



The Goal:



Increased Engagement

- Child & Family Team
- Up-front and continuing assessment along common domains
- Aligns with the California Child Welfare Core Practice Model (Statewide Practice Model) & Pathways to Wellness (Katie A. settlement)



CORE PRACTICE MODEL



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Building Family Care Capacity

Existing efforts to improve and increase the capacity of home-based family care:

- Quality Parenting Initiative
- Resource Family Approval Process
- Approved Relative Caregiver (ARC) Funding Option Program (2014: \$30 million investment)
- Tribally-approved homes/Tribal access to background information



Increasing Capacity for Home-Based Family Care

- Resource family approval by counties, Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) and Short-term Residential Treatment Centers
- Additional funding for support, retention, recruitment and training of resource families & relatives (\$21.5 million)
- Foster Family Agencies provide Core Services:
 - Trauma Informed
 - Culturally relevant
 - Accreditation through COA, CARF & JCAHO
 - May provide core services to children in county approved families
- Updated and expanded training requirements across provider and caregiver categories



Limited Use of Congregate Care

- Transition County Shelter → Temporary Shelter Care Facility
- Group Home → Short Term Residential Treatment Center that provides Core Services:
 - Trauma Informed
 - Culturally relevant
 - Accreditation through:
 - Council on Accreditation (COA)
 - Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF)
 - Joint commission on accreditation of health care organizations (JCAHO)
 - Capacity to transition to children to family care by approving resource families



Core Services

FFAs and STRTCs make available core services either directly or through formal agreements:

- Access to specialty mental health services
- Transitional support services for placement changes, permanency; aftercare
- Education, physical, behavioral and mental health supports
- Activities to support youth achieving a successful adulthood
- Services to achieve permanency & maintain/establish family connections
- Active efforts for ICWA-Eligible children



Oversight, Accountability & Provider Performance Measures

- National Accreditation
- Cross Departmental Oversight Framework
- Evaluate provider performance along common domains
- Client satisfaction surveys
- Public transparency of provider performance



Overarching Elements

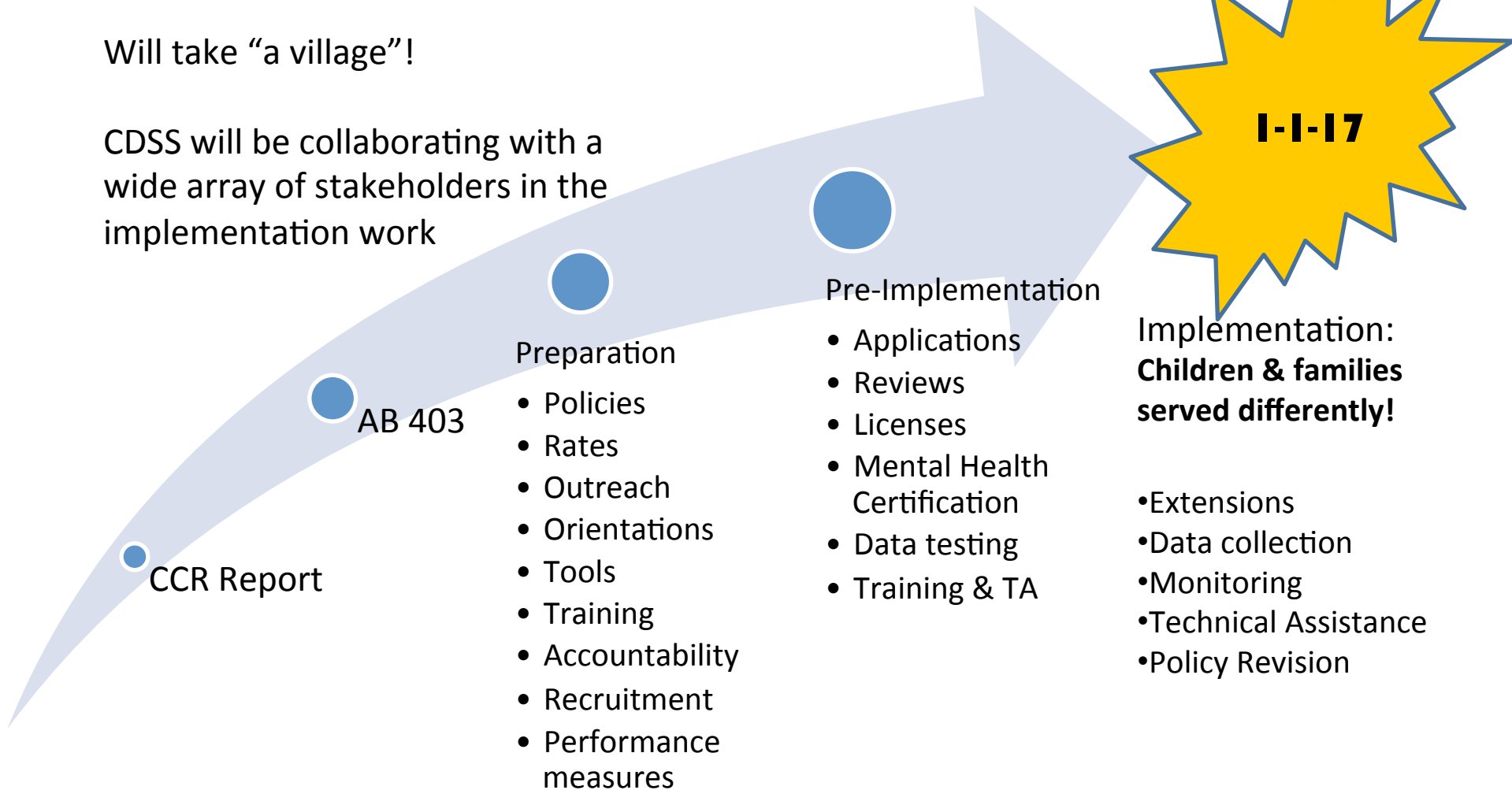
- New provider rate structure:
 - Sunset RCL system (1-14)
 - Create new STRTC rate
 - Create tiered FFA rate structure
- Multi-year implementation:
 - New requirements take effect 1/1/2017
 - Provisions for extensions up to two years
 - Additional extensions for providers and longer for those serving probation youth
- STRTC and FFA may be public or private



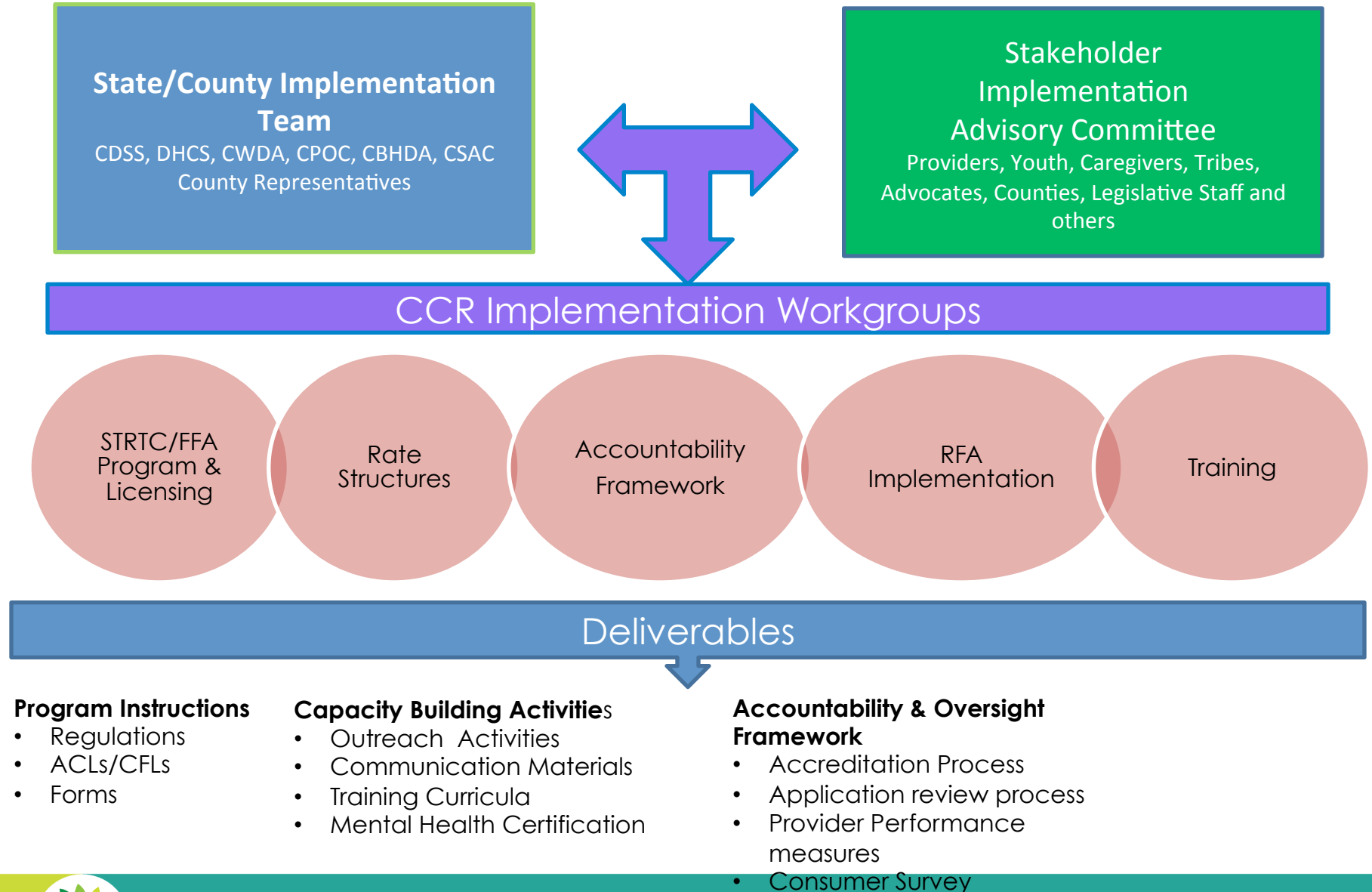
The Work Ahead...

Will take “a village”!

CDSS will be collaborating with a wide array of stakeholders in the implementation work



Proposed CCR Implementation Framework

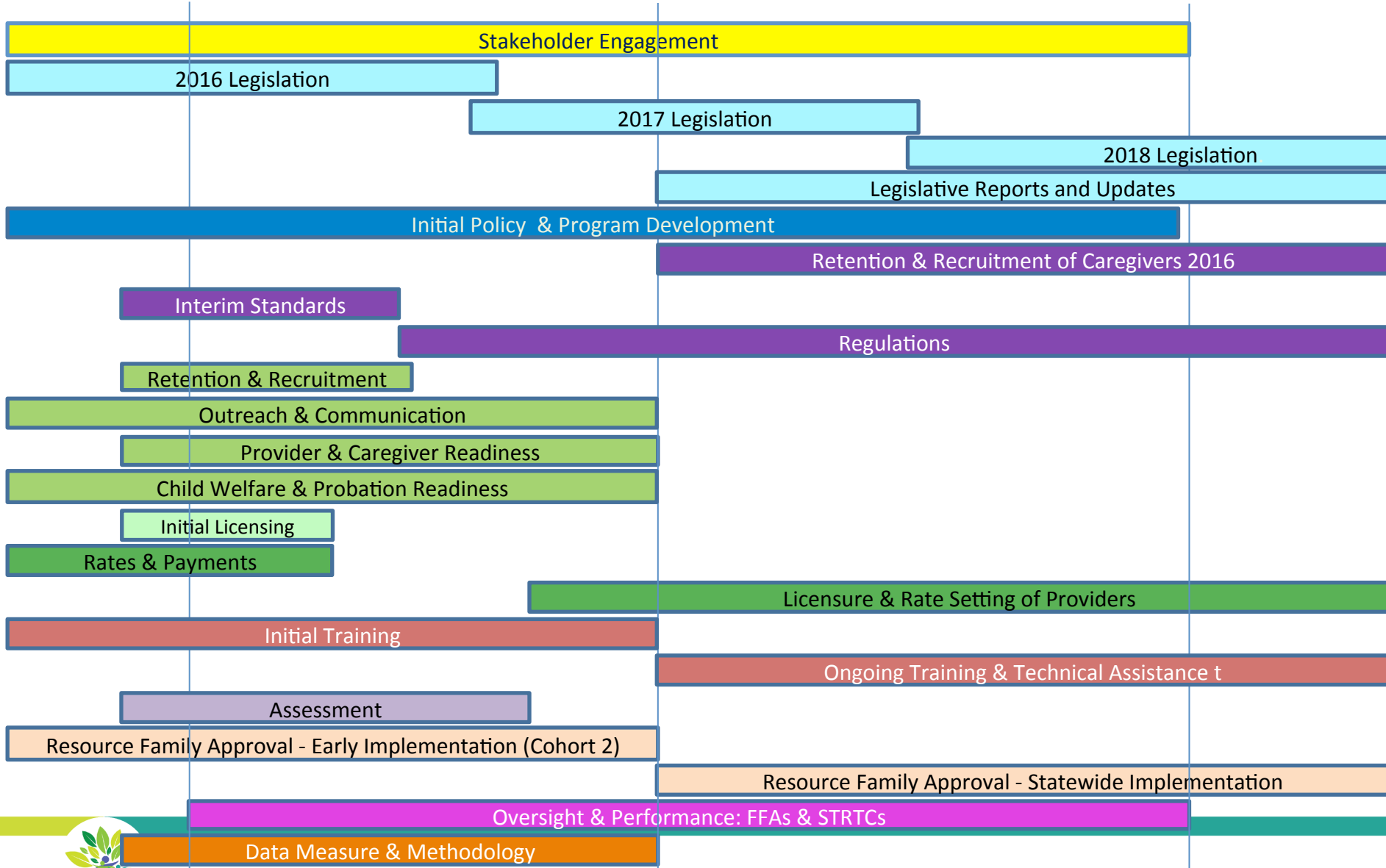


CCR Implementation Timeline

01/2016

01/2017

01/2018



Questions and Contact Info

- Questions can be sent to: ccr@dss.ca.gov
- Additional information on the CDSS website at:
<http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/default.htm>

